

USAID/Guyana
ANNUAL REPORT FY 2003

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Please Note:

The attached RESULTS INFORMATION is from the FY 2003 Annual Report and was assembled and analyzed by the country or USAID operating unit identified on the cover page.

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A. Program Level Narrative

Program Performance Summary:

USAID/Guyana's program is a direct response to the confluence between opportunity and need. Guyana is situated at a geographical and economic crossroads between North and South America. The country possesses abundant natural resources and a benign tropical climate. Moreover, the country's population is small in relation to the available resources. Nevertheless, as a consequence of nearly three decades of mismanagement under an oppressive authoritarian regime, the country's populace have been reduced to chronic deprivation, where one out of three Guyanese lives below the poverty line; and one of five lives in conditions of extreme poverty.

Guyana's first freely and fairly elected post-Independence government has, since 1992, committed itself to improving living conditions, by implementing policies that promote economic development, investment opportunities, and job creation. In response to that commitment, USAID/Guyana's program is built upon the premise that economic growth and democratization are fundamentally interconnected, and to achieve lasting results we must build upon the synergies existing between these two processes. Our program's development hypothesis is that broad-based economic growth is essential for democratic institutions to flourish. Conversely, stable institutions of democratic governance are vital for sustainable economic growth. A recently added corollary acknowledges the importance of maintaining a healthy AIDS-free human resource base.

As USAID/Guyana enters the final year under its current Country Strategy, the validity of the above-stated hypothesis remains unerring. Yet, we must remain conscious that the consequences of nearly three decades of economic and political mismanagement will not be undone easily, or quickly. Between 1992 and 1997, substantial progress was achieved promoting and implementing macroeconomic policy reform and carrying out democracy building activities. Per capita GDP grew at an average rate of 7.3 percent; exports increased and external debt declined. However, contention surrounding the results of the 1997 Presidential election, and ethnic tensions that built up during the three year Opposition-led challenge to overturn the results in court put a serious damper on economic growth and democratic reform. Annual GDP growth between 1998 and 2001 averaged less than 0.5 percent (in two of these years, the figure was negative) and the prospects for 2002 are similarly weak, estimated at 1 percent.

Fresh elections, aimed at resolving questions about the 1997 outcome, were held in March 2001. As in the past, episodes of political violence between Afro-Guyanese supporters of the People's National Congress/Reform (PNC/R) and Indo-Guyanese supporters of the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) marked the process. However, unlike the past, the re-elected PPP/C government, under President Bharrat Jagdeo, sought to quell post-election unrest by identifying common ground upon which to engage the Opposition, and its leader, Hugh Desmond Hoyte (President from 1985 to 1992), in reform-oriented dialogue. Inter-party task force committees, established mid-2001 to consider pressing national and international issues, initially made encouraging progress, particularly in the area of democratic decentralization and local government reform. USAID saw the Local Government Task Force's work as an opportunity to broaden and deepen democracy, and responded by providing technical assistance in the areas of Fiscal Decentralization, Electoral Systems, and Legal Drafting.

However, after failing to see positive/ tangible results emanating from the vast plethora of task force proposals, dialogue was suspended in March 2002. The Opposition PNC/R walked out of Parliament and has, to date, not returned. Its absence has rendered constitutionally mandated "meaningful consultation" a procedural impossibility, and although the PPP/C holds a majority and can enact legislation as and when it chooses, for all practical purposes, governance has been cast into limbo. USAID's proposals to work with Parliament's new constitutionally mandated Sectoral Standing Committees were shifted to the back burner, as were plans to provide constituent relations training.

The breakdown in political dialogue was accompanied by an increase in lawlessness and banditry, and by mid-year the nation's crime wave had reached epidemic proportions. A group from civil society (Bar Association, Private Sector and Labor Unions) calling themselves the "Social Partners Initiative" initially

concentrated its efforts on mediating the political crisis and re-starting the dialogue process. However, as the crime situation worsened, the Social Partners turned their efforts toward building a consensus strategy to address the nation's crime problems. The United States, United Kingdom and Canada also enlisted the services of Commonwealth Mediator, Sir Paul Reeves, to facilitate re-engagement between the political party leaders. Growing impatient at the slow pace of consultations to improve the nation's security situation, and in the face of kidnapping incidents involving prominent businessmen, a group from the private sector called for and successfully carried out a two-day national business shutdown under the banner "Unite Guyana".

As the political parties edged closer to re-initiating the dialogue process, Hugh Desmond Hoyte died unexpectedly on December 22, 2002. The Opposition Leader's death, and the procedures that need to be followed to appoint and confirm his successor, will undoubtedly present further delays in restoring an environment of political stability. Responding to the breakdown in public security may prove difficult in view of restrictions covering the use of USAID funds to support law enforcement or law enforcement related activities. Nevertheless, opportunities to improve the formal justice system and support community-based Peace Councils as an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism are currently being explored.

The country's health indicators remain somewhat discouraging. The infant mortality rate stands at 57 per 1000 and the maternal mortality rate at 188 per 100,000. In 1999, less than half of Guyana's residents had access to potable water. The incidence rates of communicable vector-borne diseases are comparatively high. Moreover, the incidence of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) continues to be alarmingly high, with HIV prevalence among the sexually active adult populace estimated at 3.5-5.5 percent, second highest in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Out-migration continues to exacerbate the impact of morbidity and mortality, and this year's census is likely to show negative population growth.

Responding to these health and human resource challenges, USAID/Guyana's modest resources have been targeted at increasing knowledge of HIV/AIDS among target groups; increasing the use of HIV/AIDS prevention methods; and strengthening NGO capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS programs to target groups.

While work in the Economic Growth and Democracy and Governance areas has been constrained by the breakdown in political dialogue and the increasing levels of public insecurity related to criminal activity, USAID's HIV/AIDS program continued to grow and expand. The Guyana Youth Project expanded its outreach into seven of the nation's ten administrative regions, conducting hundreds of public educational events that reached tens of thousands of sexually active persons. Condom distribution increased, suggesting a move toward safer sex practices, while expanded peer counseling services touched the lives of hundreds of persons living with HIV/AIDS.

In the past year, Guyana moved a step closer toward the political and economic abyss. It remains clear that most of the social, political and economic factors fueling the downward spiral will continue to exert a negative influence on the nation's development until political actors are able to find a way to build public confidence in government institutions and engender a climate in which political dialogue can take place without intimidation or provocation. Political stability is essential for economic growth, and to prevent the situation from deteriorating further, there is a need to embark on a national reconciliation process that allows all racial groups to feel they are stakeholders in political decision-making, rather than helpless pawns in a winner-take-all system. As 2002 came to a close, Guyana's President, Bharrat Jagdeo, professed his sincere and unreserved commitment to work together with the political opposition to build a new political culture based upon trust and bring an end to the era of confrontational politics.

USAID's program will continue to be responsive to the confluence between opportunity and need. However, USAID can not address all of the factors impeding Guyana's development. USAID will, therefore, concentrate its limited resources on those areas where success has been demonstrated and where our resources can have a measurable impact. In the democracy and governance area, a new approach that combines support for inclusiveness, conflict resolution, and accountability and transparency is envisioned. In the economic growth area, a shift toward trade and investment policy reform is

indicated, while in the HIV/AIDS area an expansion of public awareness, peer education and counseling, and condom social marketing being proposed. Success in these endeavors will, however, depend upon the energy, excitement, and commitment emanating from the Guyanese people, themselves.

Environmental Compliance: - No new or amended Initial Environmental Examinations are anticipated for the upcoming year.

- SO1 (504-0012) and SO4 (504-0111), which are wholly technical assistance and training and have no significant impact upon the environment, are in compliance with their approved Categorical Exclusions under Section 216.2(c)(2)(I).

Country Closeout & Graduation: Nothing to report

D. Results Framework

504-001 Improved Climate for Private Investment

SO Level Indicator: Average time to process investment applications

SO Level Indicator: Improved application of commercial/ investment regulations and policies

SO Level Indicator: Improved satisfaction of potential investors

IR 1.1 Increased capacity to implement economic policy for growth with equity

IR 1.2 Strengthened capacity for private sector to influence public policy

IR 1.3 Increased services to support small and micro-enterprises

Discussion: 1. This indicator is important for the GEO AND Go-Invest to track because one of the primary functions of Go-Invest is to speed up the process for investors to obtain final decisions. If this process is improved, it will be indicative of a better investment climate.

2. Applicable laws will be defined as they become apparent. In addition, elements of enforcement will also likely require further definition. Progress of this indicator will not necessarily be linear; hence it depends heavily on SO team/ RP team analysis. Note, while this indicator is subject to a number of external influences, it is a critical factor in the achievement of the overall objective.

3. The satisfaction of clients using Go-Invest services remains very positive, reflecting a new client-oriented attitude at the agency as well as more and better information products now available.

504-002 More responsive and participatory governance and rule of law

Discussion:

504-003 Improved HIV/AIDS Awareness, Knowledge and Applied Prevention Strategies

SO Level Indicator: Common local misconceptions about AIDS reduced

SO Level Indicator: Comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS among targeted groups increased

SO Level Indicator: Condom use during last sexual encounter

SO Level Indicator: Institutional capacity of targeted NGOs strengthened

IR 3.1 NGO Capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS Programs to targeted groups

IR 3.2 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS increased in targeted groups

IR 3.3 Use of HIV/AIDS prevention strategies in targeted groups increased

Discussion:

504-004 More Responsive and Participatory Governance and Rule of Law

SO Level Indicator: Increased citizen participation

SO Level Indicator: Reduction in case backlog

IR 4.1 Improved & more informed law-making & regulatory process

- IR 4.2 Increased capacity to adjudicate cases in a timely manner
- IR 4.3 Sustained Institutional capacity to conduct free and fair elections
- IR 4.4 Target CSOs influence public policy
- IR 4.5 Strengthened Local Governance

Discussion:

Selected Performance Measures - Guyana

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Indicator (all data should pertain to FY or CY 02)	OU Response	Significant Result: Description of the significant result for a strategic objective	Data Quality Factors: Information relevant to the collection of this indicator data, e.g. "this data was not collected last year because it is only collected every five years."
Pillar I: Global Development Alliance			
Did your operating unit achieve a significant result working in alliance with the private sector or NGOs?			
a. How many alliances did you implement in 2002? (list partners)			
b. How many alliances do you plan to implement in FY 2003?			
What amount of funds has been leveraged by the alliances in relationship to USAID's contribution?			
Pillar II: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade			
USAID Objective 1: Critical, private markets expanded and strengthened			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
USAID Objective 2: More rapid and enhanced agricultural development and food security encouraged			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
USAID Objective 3: Access to economic opportunity for the rural and urban poor expanded and made more equitable			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
USAID Objective 4: Access to quality basic education for under-served populations, especially for girls and women, expanded			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
a. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total
b. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total
USAID Objective 5: World's environment protected by emphasizing policies and practices ensuring environmentally sound and efficient energy use, sustainable urbanization,			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
a. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2002 actual)			
b. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2003 target)			
Pillar III: Global Health			
USAID Objective 1: Reducing the number of unintended pregnancies			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
Percentage of in-union women age 15-49 using, or whose partner is using, a modern method of contraception at the time of the survey. (DHS/RHS)	%		
USAID Objective 2: Reducing infant and child mortality			

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Percentage of children age 12 months or less who have received their third dose of DPT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months who had a case of diarrhea in the last two weeks and received ORT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months receiving a vitamin A supplement during the last six months (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Were there any confirmed cases of wild-strain polio transmission in your country?				

USAID Objective 3: Reducing deaths and adverse health outcomes to women as a result of pregnancy and childbirth

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Percentage of births attended by medically-trained personnel (DHS/RHS)	%			
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USAID Objective 4: Reducing the HIV transmission rate and the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic in developing countries

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

a. Total condom sales (2002 actual)				
b. Total condom sales (2003 target)				
National HIV Seroprevalence Rates reported annually (Source: National Sentinel Surveillance System)	%			
Number of sex partners in past year (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)				
Median age at first sex among young men and women (age of sexual debut) ages 15 - 24 (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years) per DHS or other survey)	Male	Female	Total	
Condom use with last non-regular partner (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)	%			
Number of Clients provided services at STI clinics				
Number of STI clinics with USAID assistance				
Number of orphans and other vulnerable children receiving care/support				
Number of Orphans and Vulnerable Children programs with USAID assistance				

Number of community initiatives or community organizations receiving support to care for orphans and other vulnerable children				
Number of USAID-supported health facilities offering PMTCT services				
Number of women who attended PMTCT sites for a new pregnancy in the past 12 months				
Number of women with known HIV infection among those seen at PMTCT sites within the past year.				
Number of HIV-positive women attending antenatal clinics receiving a complete course of ARV therapy to prevent MTCT (UNGASS National Programme & Behavior Indicator #4)				
Number of individuals reached by community and home-based care programs in the past 12 months				
Number of USAID-assisted community and home-based care programs				
Number of clients seen at Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers				
Number of VCT centers with USAID assistance				
Number of HIV-infected persons receiving Anti-Retroviral (ARV) treatment				
Number of USAID-assisted ARV treatment program				
a. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Is your operating unit supporting an MTCT program?				
b. Will your operating unit start an MTCT program in 2003?				
a. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	

a. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	

USAID Objective 5: Reducing the threat of infectious diseases of major public health importance

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

a. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2002 actual)				
b. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2003 target)				
a. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2002 actual)	%			
b. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2003 target)	%			

Pillar III: Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance

USAID Objective 1: Strengthen the rule of law and respect for human rights

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

USAID Objective 2: Encourage credible and competitive political processes

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

USAID Objective 3: Promote the development of politically active civil society

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

USAID Objective 4: Encourage more transparent and accountable government institutions

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

504-004 More Responsive and Participatory Governance and Rule of Law	Yes			The SO achieved a significant milestone in consolidating Guyana's democracy through the production of a compiled and up-dated edition of the Law of Guyana, released to the public in a popularly accessible format (CD-ROM). Copies of the CD-ROM have been distributed to policy-makers, judges and advocates, schools, civic as well as interested citizens. At the same time, capacity has been built to continuously compile, revise and update the Laws. Access to the Laws should greatly improve transparency, and assist in making public officers more accountable for their actions.
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USAID Objective 5: Mitigate conflict

Did your program in a pre-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Did your program in a post-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Number of refugees and internally displaced persons assisted by USAID	Male	Female	Total	
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USAID Objective 6: Provide humanitarian relief

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Number of beneficiaries				
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Crude mortality rates	%			
Child malnutrition rates	%			
Did you provide support to torture survivors this year, even as part of a larger effort?				
Number of beneficiaries (adults age 15 and over)	Male	Female	Total	
Number of beneficiaries (children under age 15)	Male	Female	Total	